

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

**Please amend the claims as follows:**

1. Canceled

2. Canceled

3. Canceled

4. Canceled

1       5. (Unchanged) An electronic database used as a depository for electronic documents generated  
2       during E-commerce transactions, comprising:

3               means for automatically receiving an electronic document after an E-commerce transaction  
4       has completed;

5               means for generating a document ID for said received E-commerce document; and

6               means for storing said electronic document.

1       6. (Unchanged) The electronic database of Claim 5, wherein said means for generating said  
2       document ID further includes means for transmitting said document ID to each party to said E-  
3       commerce transaction, which produced said electronic document.

1       7. (Unchanged) The electronic database of Claim 5, wherein said means for storing further  
2       comprises:

3           means for allowing a later read access to said E-commerce document by a party to said E-  
4           commerce transaction; and

5           means for preventing modifications to said E-commerce document after it has been stored.

8. Canceled

9. Canceled

10. Canceled

1       11. (Unchanged) A depository for ensuring the authenticity of electronic documents generated  
2           during E-commerce transactions, said depository comprising:

3           means for enabling automatic receipt of an electronic document, in response to a completion  
4           of an E-commerce transaction in which said electronic document is created; and

5           means for storing said electronic document in said electronic depository.

1       12. (Unchanged) The depository of Claim 11, wherein said storing means includes:

2           means for limiting a write access of said electronic document to a first access; and

3           means for restricting subsequent access to said document to read-only access, such that no  
4           changes may be made to said electronic document once it has been stored.

1       13. (Unchanged) The depository of Claim 11, further including:

2           means for controlling a read and write access to said electronic depository, wherein said  
3    document is stored in a write-once, read-many format;

4           means for generating a document identifier (ID), to identify said electronic document; and

5           means for later retrieving said electronic document for a party to said E-commerce  
6    transaction.

1   14. (Unchanged) The depository of Claim 13 wherein said controlling means further includes:

2           means for enabling a non-modification function for said electronic document, wherein a  
3    control code of said electronic depository is activated to prevent later modification to said electronic  
4    document; and

5           means for flagging electronic document within said electronic depository to allow a later read  
6    access to said E-commerce document by a party to said E-commerce transaction.

15. ~~Canceled~~

16. ~~Canceled~~

17. ~~Canceled~~

18. ~~Canceled~~